

# Shelby County Juvenile COURT

## JULY 2023

# CHRONICLES



## Summer in the City

The Tillman and Crump Precinct Liaisons worked together to provide an experience for sixteen young ladies who participated in summer camp. The camp engaged the girls in team building exercises and provided speakers who went into detail about college, trade schools, and job corp.

Etiquette and hygiene sessions were held as well.

Additionally, the campers were taught methods of how to de-escalate situations. As one of the culminating events, a paint and sip was arranged (of course the sip is fruit punch).

Pictured above are Dr. Stephanie Hill, Deputy CAO; Debbie Holdman, Tillman Precinct Liaison; and Cloteal Bowers, Crump Precinct Liaison.

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Shelby County Juvenile Court's  
Newsletter

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# OUR MAGISTRATES

JUVENILE COURT  
JUDGE TARIK  
SUGARMON

Meet the magistrate judges of Juvenile Court:

Chief Magistrate Aftan Strong  
Chief Legal Officer Ray Glasgow  
Magistrate Taylor Bachelor  
Magistrate Toni Cunningham  
Magistrate James Franklin, Jr.  
Magistrate Terri Fratesi  
Magistrate Hal Horne  
Magistrate Nancy Kessler  
Magistrate Sheldon McCall  
Magistrate Mitzi Pollard  
Magistrate Kevin Rardin  
Magistrate Debra Sanders



## THE JUDGE'S MESSAGE

JUDGE  
SUGARMON

Dear Staff of Juvenile Court of Shelby County:

After a brief four-month hiatus, we're back! We wanted to refresh our newsletter, not only for court staff but for fellow Shelby Countians and the families we serve. A lot has happened since our last posting in December. We wished happy retirements for Brenda Young in Administrative Services, Morrie Noel in Children's Bureau, and Charles Cook in Youth Services Bureau. Charles' retirement was short lived as he joined his father at their Primerica Insurance Company, providing Insurance and financial services. Charles has agreed to hold a financial planning presentation for us in the near future. It was also great to welcome back Bryan Branch and wish him well in his new position in Volunteer Services.

I want to thank Dr. Stephanie Hill, Marquita Evans, Shontanique Evans, Lakeisha Love, Charles Alton, Shannon Caraway,

Kweilyn Wiseman, Felicia Banks, Sykenya Myles, and all of our Senior Leadership Team and the Kroc Center Team.

I would like to give a special thanks to my Pastor, Dr. Rosalyn Nichols, for a reflective look at the development of Juvenile Court systems in this country. She then delivered an inspirational vision of what our court can become for the families and youth we serve.

Also, thank you to Steve Wilkins for his presentation on building leadership and Jana Cardon for her session on Gallup Strength Finders.

Finally, thank you to all of our Juvenile Court staff for your participation in our survey and attendance at 616 Wellness Day. We are most appreciative of the work you do for the families we serve.



# Welcome and Congratulations



Juvenile Court would like to welcome its new Executive Director of CASA, Michelle Childs, LCSW.

Michelle holds both a bachelors and masters degree in social work from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. She is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW), with extensive work in the mental health field. While at Youth Villages for over 16 years, Michelle gradually rose from a residential counselor to supervisor of all clinical services where she trained other professional counselors and consulted on multi-agency foster care cases in Tennessee, Alabama, and beyond.

Even when her family moved overseas to Poland for three years, Michelle served remotely as a Crisis Text Counselor to assist people in crisis with suicidal ideations. Upon returning to the States, Michelle was asked to fill a vacancy on the Lakeland School Board to lend her mental health expertise to the education community.

Michelle embarked on her CASA career as a dedicated volunteer beginning in February of 2020. Despite the limitations of a pandemic, Michelle took each of her CASA cases with grit and devotion, often navigating multiple agencies and states to advocate for the children she served. And, June 1 Michelle has joined the Juvenile Court Team as Executive Director of CASA.

Welcome and congratulations to Juvenile Court's new hires, promotions, and transfers. There are bigger and brighter things in the future, and we look forward to seeing all that each of you will accomplish. Congratulations and welcome aboard!!

## Administrative Services

Christinia Maggette - Accountant A  
Richard Rough - Director of Finance and Purchasing  
Vanity Talbert - Administrative Technician-Volunteer Services Bureau (VSB)

## Children's Bureau

Tinika Daniels - Juvenile Services Counselor II - Protective Services  
Cheryl Oliver - Juvenile Services Specialist II/Traffic

## Youth Services Bureau

Brittany Parker - Juvenile Services Specialist II/ICM  
Dewon Porter - Juvenile Services Specialist II/ICM



Thank you to the Juvenile Court employees who have volunteered to steer the new Hospitality Committee. Committee members are tasked with creating a year long calendar of events for the court and its staff.

Please share your ideas and suggestions with the committee by emailing them.



Team Building



Cake Decorating  
- the ladies had an opportunity to use various colors and textures to create decorations for their cakes.



## Summer Interns

Juvenile Court worked with the EMPLOY Youth Program, an annual summer program sponsored by MOYS that provides youth ages 14 to 22 meaningful work experiences in various workforce industries. Among the interns was one from the Mayor's Summer Program. The Interns were tasked with various duties as needed in each department. (Interns pictured with Judge Tarik Sugarmon. Jarnesha Vanhook, not pictured, also interned at Juvenile Court.)

During their 6 weeks, interns were given weekly homework assignments such as studying for their driver's license, opening checking and savings accounts, selecting colleges and/or careers and discussing their choice, and creating individual vision boards.

Kweilyn Wiseman coordinated with Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris' office and facilitated the assignment of interns to various departments.



Markeisha Lewis



Morgan Askew



Alterio Degraffenreid



Anyia Morris

## Faithful Employees

Felicia Banks and Audry Cobbs unexpectedly showed up to work with the single word FAITH on their dresses.

Juvenile Court staff hold fast to their faith in knowing that daily the Court is becoming better as we are utilizing best practices to deliver the quality services and programming to the youth and families served on a daily basis.



Felicia Banks and Audry Cobbs

# Lunch on the Lawn was LOL!



Jasmine Newsom and Joanne Montez



Staff assisted with lunch set up.



Staff gathered to celebrate employees



Staff ate lunch on the front lawn.



Shirle Kaufman, Sherrie Williams, Jasmine Newsom, Christinia Maggette, Shirley Terrell, Jackie Macklin, Lea Ester Redmond



Stanley Branch and Ebony Ross



Alverna Wade



Trina Jones and Charles Alton

On July 19, Juvenile Court hosted its annual Lunch on the Lawn for its employees.

This year's event was compliments of the new Hospitality Committee. The well organized day was not tainted by the Memphis heat and humidity.

Employees gathered at various times through the day to enjoy food, games, and an occasional cool breeze as they fellowshiped under the trees and tents and in their lawn chairs.

Employees were also recognized for their dedication and years of service to the Court.



Stephen Bush and Jackie Macklin

**Staff wore their yellow Team 616 t-shirts to show the spirit of unity in the Court.**

# Around the Court Years of Service

The work and dedication of Shelby County employees is inspiring.

Daily they show up to give their all, and Judge Sugarmon wanted to commend all of the staff for their efforts, giving special recognition to staff members who have served for five years up to twenty-five years plus. Their dedication to their jobs shows that their goals align with those of the Court. Thank you,

Team 616, for

exemplifying a quote from Calvin Coolidge –“All growth depends upon activity. There is no development physically or intellectually without effort, and effort means work.”



Cody White



Christinia Maggette



Thomas Coupe



Terry Taylor



Joanne Monti



Lea Ester Redmond

## Honorees

Robert Blancett  
Keisha Brown  
Keith Gale  
Erica Glynn  
Christinia Maggette  
Jennifer McMillan  
Joanne Monti  
Paige Myrick  
Odie Neely  
Lea Ester Redmond-Terrell  
Jennifer Stovall  
Terry Taylor  
Derek Warr  
Damarius White



Odie Neely

# Around the City of Memphis Congratulations Are In Order

Audry Cobbs has been diligently working at Juvenile Court as a counselor in YSB.

She also has been working diligently at the University of Memphis. Audry completed her studies at the University of Memphis, graduating with her Masters in Social Work with a certification in clinical social work on May 6, 2023.

Juvenile Court staff have so much to offer in the way of experience and knowledge. Their interest in continuing education is to be commended.



## 2023 Summer Camps at Juvenile Court

Juvenile Court has had an opportunity to meet with several girls and boys during the MPD summer camps. Two of the activities for the various groups involve touring Juvenile Court and hearing from staff about the services of the Court.

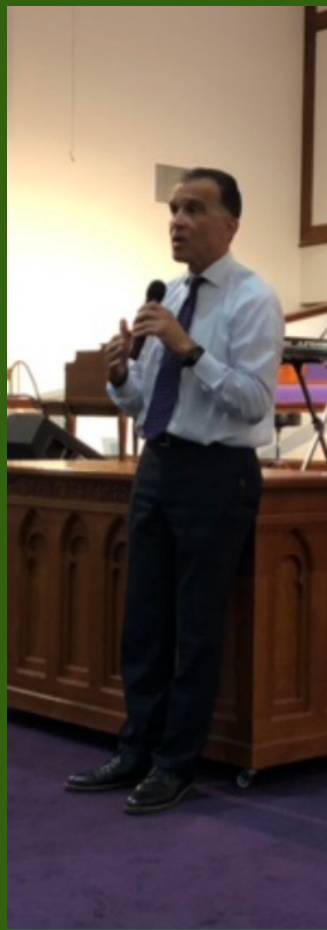


(Left) Dr. Hill presents to the girl campers

(Right) Judge Tarik Sugarmon and Bryan Branch pictured with boys summer camp participants

# Cease Fire

The Juvenile Court Ceasefire Program was created in a collaborative effort among the Court, Tennessee Department of Corrections, the US Attorney's Office, and the Memphis Police Department. A court ordered program, the goal is to deter serious gang and youth gun violence. The program offers workforce training, employment, and other services. Pictured here are Juvenile Court Judge Tarik Sugarmon, MPD's Chief CJ Davis, and former Police Director Tony Armstrong who all had a candid conversation with the teens attending regarding youth gun crimes.



**ADA33** 1990 - 2023  
**Americans with Disabilities Act**  
**Celebrate the ADA! July 26, 2023**

(continued)

Celebrate the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Today is the 33rd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), was signed into law on July 26, 1990 by President George H.W. Bush. The ADA prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the American people.

National Disability Independence Day is celebrated every year on July 26th. It commemorates the signing of the Americans with Disability Act (A.D.A.) in 1990.

#### HISTORY OF NATIONAL DISABILITY INDEPENDENCE DAY

- The American disability movement started in the 1960s, aiming to resist the age-old notion that people with disabilities are defective, and as such, need to be segregated from civic life. The movement was inspired by the broader civil rights struggles of the time. It rejected cruel attitudes and advocated for full access to opportunities in education, public life, and employment.

- The passage of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 was a major step for the betterment of people with disabilities. This section prohibited recipients of federal funds from discriminating against people with disabilities. Section 508 of the same act, which was later updated in 1998, included that federal information, which was distributed electronically, should be made accessible to those with disabilities. This section was updated again in 2017, to make all digital information accessible to the disabled.
- The A.D.A. was first introduced in 1988, designed to build on the progress of the Rehabilitation Act and expand the rights of the disabled community into a single law to ensure their freedom from discrimination in employment, transportation, communication, and government and public establishments.



For information on Shelby County Juvenile Court or Court events, follow on Facebook, Twitter, or scan the QR code.

Submit information for possible inclusion in the newsletter to [stephanie.white@shelbcountytn.gov](mailto:stephanie.white@shelbcountytn.gov). Please write newsletter and the name of event or announcement in the subject line.



JUVENILE COURT PRESENTS

# TRUANCY RESOLUTION CLINIC



616 ADAMS AVE  
1ST FLOOR LOBBY

AUGUST 2ND 9:00 AM-1:00 PM  
AUGUST 3RD 3:00 PM-7:00 PM



## REGISTRATION CHECKLIST:

Two (2) approved proofs of residence  
<http://scsk12.org/registration/proof>

Required immunizations

Photo ID of parent/guardian

Active PowerSchool account if  
student is new to MSCS

MSCS WILL BE ON SITE  
FOR 23-24 REGISTRATIONS



For more information  
please contact:

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